

Message Text

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R 290042Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 098830

NESCO

FOL REPEAT STATE 098830 SENT ACTION PARIS APR 23

QTE

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NESCO

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: UNESCO, AORG

SUBJECT: UNESCO

REF: STATE 89941

SECRETARY OF STATE SIGNED THE FOLLOWING LETTER ON APRIL 12

TO DG M'BOW:

"DEAR MR. DIRECTION GENERAL:

I WISH TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF FEBRUARY 10, 1976,
REQUESTING EARLY PAYMENT OF THE SUMS OWED TO THE ORGANIZATION
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BY THE UNITED STATES.

I FULLY APPRECIATE THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR UNESCO OF THE NONPAYMENT OF THE UNITED STATES CONTRIBUTION. IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, HOWEVER, GIVEN THE INABILITY OF THE PRESIDENT TO MAKE THE CERTIFICATION REQUIRED UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1974, I MUST TELL YOU THAT WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO CONTINUE TO WITHHOLD PAYMENT. UNDER THE TERMS OF THAT AMENDMENT, CONGRESS DIRECTED THAT "... NO FUNDS SHOULD BE OBLIGATED OR EXPENDED, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, TO SUPPORT THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFICAL AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION UNTIL THE PRESIDENT CERTIFIES TO THE CONGRESS THAT SUCH ORGANIZATION (1) HAS ADOPTED POLICIES WHICH ARE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH ITS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFICAL AND CULTURAL OBJECTIVES, AND (2) HAS TAKEN CONCRETE STEPS TO CORRECT ITS RECENT ACTIONS OF A PRIMARILY POLITICAL CHARACTER."

AS YOU KNOW, THIS AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED BY THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS IN DECEMBER 1975 IN RESPONSE TO CERTAIN POLITICALLY MOTIVATED ACTS OF THE 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO, DIRECTED AGAINST ISRAEL, WHICH AROUSED CONSIDERABLE INDIGNATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

BECAUSE OF OUR STRONG DESIRE TO BE ABLE TO PLAY A FULL ROLE IN SUPPORT OF THE GOALS FOR WHICH UNESCO STANDS, WE HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THE EFFORTS MADE AT RECENT SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, DUE IN PART TO YOUR CAPABLE LEADERSHIP, TO AVOID FURTHER POLITICIZATION, WE WERE ALSO GRATIFIED BY THE WELCOME STEPS THE BOARD TOOK TOWARD REVERSING THE GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISION WHICH EXCLUDED ISRAEL FROM MEMBERSHIP IN UNESCO REGIONAL GROUPS.

I HOPE THAT THE 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE WILL BUILD UPON THESE ENCOURAGING BEGINNINGS AND THEREBY CONTRIBUTE TOWARD THE CREATION OF CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE UNITED STATES COULD RESUME ITS PAYMENTS TO UNESCO.

YOUR LETTER ALSO REFERS TO YOUR APPEAL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO HELP DEFRAID THE ADDED EXPENSE OF HOLDING THE 19TH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GENERAL CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI, KENYA. WHILE WE CONCURRED IN THE DECISION TO HOLD THE 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI, WE DID SO WITHOUT COMMITTING OURSELVES TO FINANCIAL SUPPORT. IT IS OUR POLICY THAT THE EXTRA EXPENSES OF ANY CONFERENCE HELD AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS SHOULD BE BORNE BY THE HOST GOVERNMENT. IN ADDITION, THE AMENDMENT TO THE 1974 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT NOTED ABOVE WOULD APPEAR RELEVANT IN THIS SITUATION. WE HAVE

ALREADY INFORMED THE GOVERNMENT OF KENYA THAT WE WILL
NOT MAKE A CONTRIBUTION.

I TRUST THAT THESE CLARIFICATIONS WILL BE HELPFUL TO YOU.

BEST REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER. SISCO

UNQTE
SISCO

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